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The introduction to the book gives a somewhat technical discussion of the botanical nature of wood and a description of the way in which different woods are formed by growth. Under the title "Practical Hints," directions are given enabling one not skilled with a microscope to identify woods by their structural characters. It also tells how to make and mount thin sections of wood for examination with the microscope or with the stereopticon.

The descriptions are illustrated by one hundred and eighty-six excellently reproduced photomicrographs. The scale of magnification is three times the natural size and is designed to show the appearance of the transverse section as seen by means of an ordinary hand lens.

A good bibliography and index enhance the value of the book.

H. S. R.

**A Notebook for the Botanical Laboratory in the High School.<sup>1</sup>**

—The author has prepared this notebook with special reference to the work outlined in his well known text-books. The book gives comprehensive directions to the pupil for setting up experiments. It contains convenient ruled and blank sheets for the record of results, and there is also ample space for making drawings. It will do much to save time and trouble by minimizing the amount of routine dictation demanded from the teacher. The notebook will help to develop accuracy, self-reliance, and originality in the pupil. It teaches him to be systematic without confusing him with a mass of unnecessary directions.

H. S. R.

**Notes.**—A paper on fungous diseases of the cranberry, by Shear, forms *Farmers' Bulletin no. 221*, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

A popular abridgment of Lovell's papers on colors of flowers is to be found in *The American Botanist*, for March.

An account of the shade trees of Denver forms *Bulletin 96* of the Experiment Station of the Agricultural College of Colorado.

The roots of plants serve as subject for *Bulletin no. 127* of the Experiment Station of the Kansas State Agricultural College, by Ten Eyck.

<sup>1</sup> Bergen, J. Y. *A Notebook to Accompany Bergen's Text-books of Botany*. Boston, Ginn & Co., 1904. 4to, 144 pp.

A paper by Chauveaud on the secretory apparatus of *Taxus* is published in no. 7 of the *Bulletin du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle* of Paris for 1904.

Papers on the bamboos are being published by Bureau in current numbers of the *Bulletin du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle*, of Paris.

Botanically interesting studies of the sand-drift problem in New South Wales are contributed by Maiden and McMaster to vol. 37 of the *Journal and Proceedings of the Royal Society of New South Wales*, recently issued.

An account of aluminum as an important element in certain trees is published by H. G. Smith in vol. 37 of the *Journal and Proceedings of the Royal Society of New South Wales*.

**The Journals.** — *Torreya*, April: — Harper, "Some Noteworthy Stations for *Pinus palustris*"; Murrill, "Terms applied to the Surface and Surface Appendages of Fungi"; King, "Experiment to show that the Absence of Light alone will Prevent the Process of Photosynthesis"; Parish, "Birds and Mistletoe — a Correction"; Cockerell, "The Name *Melampodium*."

*The Plant World*, March: — Nash, "A Trip to the Inaguas" Arthur, "On the Nomenclature of Fungi having Many Fruit Forms"; Streeter, "A Treasure Spot of Wild Flowers"; Wiegand, "The Biology of Buds and Twigs in Winter."

*The Ohio Naturalist*, April: — Claasen, "Key to the Liverworts recognized in the Sixth Edition of Gray's Manual of Botany"; Smith, "Key to the Ohio Elms in the Winter Condition"; Gleason, "Notes from the Ohio State Herbarium — III"; Riddle, "Development of the Embryo Sac and Embryo of *Staphylea trifoliata*."

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## GEOLOGY.

**Merrill's A Treatise on Rocks, Rock-weathering, and Soils.**<sup>1</sup>— This work, which appeared in 1897, was reprinted from electrotypes plates in 1904, with an inserted list of errata which apparently the method of reprinting precluded embodying in the text. This work

<sup>1</sup> Merrill, George P. *A Treatise on Rocks, Rock-weathering, and Soils*. New York, The Macmillan Co., 1904. 8vo, xx + 411 pp., 25 pls., 42 text figs. \$4.00.